Import of Rice from China

967. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report that in Karnataka, Chinese rice is being sold at Rs. 6 per Kg. in Districts of Mysore and Mandya;

(b) if so, the total quantity of rice imported from China and at what price; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider imposing anti-dumping duty on Chinese rice?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As per DGCI&S, Calcutta data, available for the year 1999-2000, 2000-01 and the month of April, 2001, no rice has been imported from China.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Paper mills referred to BIFR

†968. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of paper mills registered in India based on non-wood based raw material;

(b) the number of mills referred to BIFR out of them togetherwith the number of mills closed down and the condition of the remaining mills; and

(c) the root cause of present misery of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) There are about 483 paper mills based on non-wood raw material in the country.

(b) Number of sick/closed paper mills based on raw material is not centrally maintained. However, as on 31st March, 2001, 201 sick paper mills were registered with the Board for Industrial and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.